

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PONTA 00216 181705Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SCCT-01 AF-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00 OPR-02 A-01

OMB-01 SCA-01 EB-07 SSO-00 USSS-00 ACDA-05 AID-05

/098 W

----- 084844

R 181540Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 1185

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

COMUSFORAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 00216

CONFIDENTIAL RELEASEABLE TO NATO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: AZOREAN DEMONSTRATION AGAINST INDEPENDENCE

1. EVENING OF JUNE 16 A WELL ORGANIZED GROUP OF BETWEEN THREE AND FIVE HUNDRED MARCHED THROUGH STREETS ON PONTA DELGADA DEMONSTRATING AGAINST INDEPENDENCE. DEMONSTRATORS CHANTED "SOCIALISM YES, SEPARATISM NO", "MAPA, FLA, AND FRIA ALL BELONG TO THE CIA", "THE AZORES ARE NOT FOR SALE", AND "AZOREAN SOLDIER, YOU WERE NOT DECEIVED".

THE DEMONSTRATION WAS NON-PARTISON (THE PPD AND CDS HAD HALF HEARTEDLY JOINED IN CALLING FOR IT), AND NO PARTY SIGNS WERE CARRIED. IN SPITE OF REPEATED RADIO

PAGE 2 RUDOVAA7919 C O N F I D E N T I A L

APPEALS FOR PARTICIPATION, IT WAS MODEST, ESPECIALLY IN COMPARISON TO THE JUNE SIX TH DEMONSTRATION. SOME OF THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE BUSSED IN FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE ISLAND AND A FEW WERE FROM A PORTUGUESE SHIP. FOR THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PONTA 00216 181705Z

MOST PART BY-STANDERS DID NOT JOIN IN. SECURITY WAS

TIGHT; ARMED SOLDIERS AND POLICE PREVENTED THE DEMONSTRATORS FROM APPROACHING SENSITIVE SPOTS INCLUDING THE CONSULATE.

2. AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION, A CONSTRUCTION WORKER REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE AND GEN. MAGALHAES, THE MILITARY GOVERNOR, SPOKE TO THE CROWD GATHERED IN FRONT OF THE MILITARY HEADQUARTERS. THE WORKER REPUDIATED THE SEPARATISTS WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS WEALTHY LANDOWNERS AND REAFFIRMED THE DESIRE OF AZOREANS TO REMAIN PORTUGUESE. GEN. MAGALHAES SAID THE SEPARATISTS WERE REACTIONARIES WHO, FEARFUL OF LOSING THEIR PRIVILEGES IN THE COURSE OF THE PORTUGUESE SOCIO-ECONOMIC EVOLUTION, SEEK INDEPENDENCE AS AN EASY WAY TO AVOID THEIR LOSS. THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE PART IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF A JUST SOCIETY, HE ADDED MUST

PAGE 3 RUDOVAA7919 C O N F I D E N T I A L

BE EXCLUDED. MAGALHAES ACKNOWLEDGED SERIOUS PROBLEMS IN THE AZORES, PARTICULARLY THE NEED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTONOMY FOR THE AZORES IS URGENT, BUT HE SAID NO TO INDEPENDENCE AND DESERTION. HE ANNOUNCED THAT THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL HAD BEGUN THAT DAY IMPORTANT WORK TO SOLVE THE SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE AZORES AND THAT OTHER URGENT PROJECTS WOULD FOLLOW.

3. COMMENT: THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ASPECT OF THE DEMONSTRATION WAS THE MILITARY GOVERNORS'S CALL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AUTONOMY AND HIS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL IS SEEKING A SOLUTION TO AZOREAN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, BOTH ISSUES FIRST ENUNCIATED BY MAPA. ALTHOUGH MAGALHAES WAS NOT SPECIFIC ON EITHER POINT, HIS ANNOUNCEMENT, TOGETHER WITH REPORTS HE HAS RECEIVED A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE FROM THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, INDICATES THAT HE MAY HAVE CONVINCED LISBON OF THE NECESSITY OF DEALING WITH AZOREAN COMPLAINTS.

4. A FOOTNOTE: MANY PEOPLE OF VARYING POLITICAL PERSUASIONS HAVE RECEIVED ANONOMOUS THREATENING

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PONTA 00216 181705Z

PAGE 4 RUDOVAA7919 C O N F I D E N T I A L

PHONE CALLS HERE. THE CONSULATE HAS RECEIVED FOUR IN THREE DAYS, ONE SAYING THE DEMONSTRATORS WOULD ATTACK THE OFFICE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ANY THREAT TO OUR SAFETY, ONLY AN ATTEMPT AT HARASSMENT. THE POLICE AND ARMY HAVE GIVEN US EXCELLANT PROTECTION INCLUDING

STATIONING TROOPS IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE. LTC. MIRANDA
PERSONALLY CAME TO MY HOUSE TO TELL ME HOW IS COULD REACH HIM
DAY OR NIGHT. PFEIFLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PONTA00216
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750212-0719
From: PONTA DELGADA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750638/aaaabipn.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AZOREAN DEMONSTRATION AGAINST INDEPENDENCE
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006